

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION NATO
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: ORIOL KIDNAPPING

REF: MADRID 9364

1. THERE HAS BEEN NO APPARENT MOVEMENT IN THE ORIOL KIDNAPPING CASE DURING THE PAST 48 HOURS, ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE KIDNAPPERS ("GRAPO"--REFTEL) AND THE GOVT AND/OR ORIOL FAMILY ARE UNDERWAY. THE GOVT PUBLICLY (AND PRIVATELY) HAS REJECTED THE KIDNAPPERS'S REITERATED DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF 15 "POLITICAL" PRISONERS IN EXCHANGE FOR ORIOL AND GOVT SOURCES REPORTEDLY HAVE DENIED THAT ANY DEMAND FOR MONEY, AS REPORTED IN THE "WASHINGTON POST," HAS BEEN MADE. THE ORIOL FAMILY LAST NIGHT ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT ASKING THE KIDNAPPERS TO "TELL US WHAT TO DO," IMPLYING THAT THE FAMILY MIGHT BE WILLING TO ENTERTAIN A RANSOM DEMAND.

2. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPECULATION CONTINUES AS TO THE
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IDENTITY OF GRAPO. AFTERNOON DAILY "DIARIO 16" YESTER-

DAY OBSERVED THAT IT IS CURIOUS THAT NO LEFT/FAR LEFT POLITICAL GROUP WILL OWN UP EVER TO HAVE HAD ANY CONTACT WITH GRAPO, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING THE "RECONSTITUTED" SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE-4); OF WHICH GRAPO IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE "MILITARY" ARM. A WELL CONNECTED SOCIALIST JOURNALIST TOLD EMBOFF PRIVATELY YESTERDAY THAT, UNLIKE WITH OTHER TERRORIST GROUPS LIKE ETA AND FRAP, HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANYONE AMONG HIS LEGAL, POLITICAL, AND JOURNALISTIC SOURCES WHO HAS EVER HAD ANY CONTACT WITH ANYONE CLAIMING TO BE A MEMBER OF GRAPO. HE SPECULATED THAT IT COULD INDEED BE AN INDEPENDENT FAR-LEFT TERRORIST MINI-GROUP, BUT THAT IT MIGHT ALSO BE A SMALL FRINGE GROUP OF ULTRA-LEFTISTS BEING MANIPULATED BY THE ULTRA-RIGHT, OR, MUCH LESS LIKELY, THE ULTRA-RIGHT ITSELF.

3. ADDING TO THE CONFUSION OVER THE ULTIMATE IDENTITY OF THE GRAPO, A SENIOR POLITICAL LEVEL OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY TOLD EMBOFF TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD SOME INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GRAPO HAD POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL TIES AND MIGHT BE LINKED TO THE LISTER GROUP. THE LISTER GROUP IS A DISSIDENT BRANCH OF THE PCE, WHICH CLAIMS TO BE ORTHODOX AS OPPOSED TO SANTIAGO CARRILLO'S BUREAU COMMUNIST HERESIES. AT ONE TIME, THE SOVIETS SUPPORTED ENRIQUE LISTER, THE FORMER REPUBLICAN CIVIL WAR GENERAL AGAINST CARILLO BUT ABANDONED THIS SUPPORT AFTER IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT CARILLO WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER THE PCE NO MATTER WHO THE COMMUNISTS SUPPORTED. LISTER IS THOUGHT OF AS A STALINIST IN THE CUNHAL MOLD. WE EXPECT SPECULATION TO CONTINUE UNTIL THERE IS HARDER INFORMATION ON THE NATURE OF THE GRAPO.

4. MEANWHILE, THREATENING PHONE CALLS FROM ALLEGED RIGHTISTS TO LEFT OPPOSITION POLITICAL LEADERS CONTINUE. IN ADDITION TO CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT RUIZ GIMENEZ, SOCIALIST LEADERS TIENRO GALVAN AND FELIPE GONZALEZ REPORTEDLY HAVE RECEIVED DEATH THREATS IN THE EVENT THAT ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ORIOL, AND COMMUNIST CONFIDENTIAL

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WORKERS COMMISSIONS PERSONALITY MERCELINO CAMACHO HAS BEEN GIVEN POLICE PROTECTION AT HIS REQUEST AFTER HE REPORTEDLY WAS FOLLOWED BY UNKNOWN PERSONS. STABLER

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Message Attributes

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